



Marshall-Saline Development Corporation

Roy Hunter
Executive Director

Chairman Julius Genachowski
FCC Commissioners

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Oct. 22, 2009 Open Meeting-Broadband Industry Practices – WC
Docket 07-52

Dear Commissioners:

As Executive Director of the Marshall-Saline Economic Development Council, I'm responsible for attracting new businesses and keeping existing businesses in Saline County.


Saline County is a rural area of Missouri. The development corporation has rural advantages and rural challenges for economic development.

Hi-tech infrastructure can be a challenge if companies are not given the proper investment environment. No economic development tool can replace a robust infrastructure.

I'm concerned that net neutrality regulation will slow investment in the infrastructure that supports business operations of today. As industries and companies become more and more dependent on new technology for efficiencies, the network infrastructure supporting all that technology must continue advance. Rural networks must modernize and grow. Net neutrality regulation should not penalize companies for managing their networks fairly. Any regulation that slows infrastructure investment should be avoided.

I support free market completion with minimal regulation. Free markets best serve consumers. I urge you to enact minimal regulation as you create broadband services policy. Technology has become the backbone of our country's economy. It supports our financial, industrial, and commercial business. Competition, not regulation, keeps us strong and prosperous here in Saline County and across the globe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Roy Hunter", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Roy Hunter
Executive Director
Marshall-Saline Economic Development Corp.